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Oxfordshire County Council

ANNUAL REPORT
ON
County Health Services



Report of the
County Medical Officer

H. C. JENNINGS

M.A., B.Sc. (Oxon) M.B., B.S. (Lond.), D.P.H.

1950

Oxfordshire County Council

ANNUAL REPORT
ON
County Health Services

PART II

Report of the
County Medical Officer

H. C. JENNINGS

M.A., B.Sc. (Oxon) M.B., B.S. (Lond.), D.P.H.

1 9 5 0

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

DR. F. N. WHITE, *Chairman.*

MR. O. J. BARLEY, *Vice-Chairman.*

Council Members

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| † LORD MACCLESFIELD | † MR. G. R. KEEYS |
| MR. F. E. WITHINGTON | MR. C. LUKER |
| *†‡ MR. O. J. BARLEY | DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH |
| *MR. W. G. BAYLEY | § THE HON. H. PARKER |
| *MRS. C. C. CHILTON | MRS. W. D. DE PASS |
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| MR. C. HUNT | *†‡ DR. F. N. WHITE |
| *§ MRS. M. A. JOHNSON | |

Co-opted Members

Oxfordshire Nursing Federation Representatives

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| THE COUNTESS OF MACCLESFIELD | ‡ MRS. JAMES MORRELL |
| ‡ THE HON. MRS. G. FIELDEN | MR. G. TURTON GREEN |

Area Executive Council Representative—DR. C. A. COOKE

Local Hospitals Management Committee Representative—(Vacant)

* Mental Health Services Sub-Committee.

† Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Sub-Committee.

‡ Nurses Accommodation Sub-Committee.

§ Audit Sub-Committee.

STAFF

County Medical Officer

DR. H. C. JENNINGS, M.A., B.SC., M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Deputy County Medical Officer

DR. V. O. B. GARTSIDE, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.I.H.

Assistant County Medical Officer (part-time)

DR. A. J. CAMPBELL, M.D., B.SC., D.P.H., Barrister at Law.

Medical Officers of Child Welfare Clinics (part time)

36 General Practitioners

County Superintendent Nursing Officer

Superintendent of Health Visitors

MISS M. OWEN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.CERT.

MISS N. S. DOWN, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., is on the staff of the Health Department but is seconded to the Oxfordshire Nursing Federation as Superintendent of District Nurse Midwives.

Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor

MISS C. E. HENRY, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.S., H.V.CERT.

Health Visitor Tutor

MISS B. COX, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Health Visitors (also School Nurses), 32.

Duly Authorized Officer and Mental Welfare Officer (whole time)

MR. H. S. HEADY.

Mental Welfare Officer (whole time)

MISS M. A. PUDNEY, D.P.A. (Oxon)

Duly Authorized Officers (part time)

MR. W. J. R. BURROWS

MR. A. J. POWELL

MR. R. C. A. CHARLETT

MR. N. F. SPATCHER

MR. REYNOLDS

MR. BUCKLAND

} Littlemore Hospital Staff.

Chief Clerk

MR. D. L. HOWELLS

STATISTICS

(a) GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres), 470,757.

Population (Census 1931), 129,082.

Population (Estimated mid-1950) Total 172,060.

Rateable value for whole County, £902,245.

Estimated product of penny rate for whole County (1948-1949),
£3650.

(b) EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

| <i>Births</i> | <i>Live Births</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>M.</i> | <i>F.</i> |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| | Legitimate | 2771 | 1433 | 1338 |
| | Illegitimate | 143 | 71 | 72 |
| | | — | — | — |
| | | 2914 | 1504 | 1410 |
| | | — | — | — |

Rate per 1000 of the estimated population 16.93.

Stillbirths

| | <i>Total</i> | <i>M.</i> | <i>F.</i> |
|--------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| Legitimate | 46 | 29 | 17 |
| Illegitimate | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| | — | — | — |
| | 51 | 32 | 19 |

Rate per 1000 of the estimated population 0.29.

| <i>Deaths</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>M.</i> | <i>F.</i> |
|---------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| | 1889 | 933 | 956 |

Rate per 1000 of the population 10.78.

Maternal Mortality (whole County).

| | <i>Deaths</i> | <i>Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births</i> |
|-----------------------|---------------|--|
| Puerperal sepsis | Nil | — |
| Other maternal causes | Nil | — |

Infant Mortality

| | <i>M.</i> | <i>F.</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Rate per 1000 live births</i> |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| Legitimate | 36 | 21 | 57 | 20.5 |
| Illegitimate | 4 | 2 | 6 | 41 |
| | — | — | — | — |
| | 40 | 23 | 63 | 21.6 |

The chief causes of infant deaths were pneumonia 9, premature birth 13, and congenital malformation 9.

The following table gives the rate per 1000 births for the County and for England and Wales for the past 10 years:

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Oxfordshire</i> | <i>England & Wales</i> |
|-------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 1950 | 21.6 | 29.8 |
| 1949 | 25 | 32 |
| 1948 | 21 | 34 |
| 1947 | 22 | 41 |
| 1946 | 27 | 43 |
| 1945 | 37 | 64 |
| 1944 | 37 | 46 |
| 1943 | 34 | 49 |
| 1942 | 33 | 49 |
| 1941 | 38 | 59 |

Maternal Mortality

In the report of last year it was claimed that ‘the maternal mortality rate is .65 so low that it is difficult to see how it can be further reduced.’ This claim has been exceeded because in the year under consideration there were no deaths associated with pregnancy and childbirth. It has been suggested that all pregnancies should be made notifiable. This could scarcely result in any further decline in maternal mortality. It might, however, reveal concealed pregnancies and reduce maternal morbidity.

Maternal Mortality per 1000 live and stillbirths

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Oxfordshire</i> | <i>England & Wales</i> |
|-------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| 1950 | Nil | .86 |
| 1949 | .65 | .98 |
| 1948 | 1.28 | 1.02 |
| 1947 | 1.1 | 1.17 |
| 1946 | .96 | 1.43 |
| 1945 | 1.06 | 1.79 |
| 1944 | .95 | 1.93 |
| 1943 | 1.86 | 2.29 |
| 1942 | .7 | 2.01 |
| 1941 | .38 | 2.23 |
| 1940 | .45 | 2.16 |

Birth Rate

The birth rate shows a slight increase over the previous year, the comparative figures being: 1950—16.93, 1949—16.73. The corresponding figure for England and Wales is 15.8. This slight increase in birth rate reflects the national trend. Although less than the rate for England and Wales it is a higher rate than that obtaining in the Great

Towns. It is difficult to foresee the future trend in birth rate as the post-war prophets have already been confounded.

The stillbirth rate remains stationary (0.29) and compares favourably with the National Rate of 0.37. There is no significant alteration in the illegitimate birth rate but it is noteworthy that an illegitimate child has more than a three-fold risk of dying in infancy as compared with a legitimate child.

Death Rate

There is no significant alteration in death rate 10.8 (10.9) which is slightly less than that for England and Wales 11.6 (11.7). Coronary disease, angina pectoris, cerebral thrombosis and cerebral haemorrhage still extract their toll of life accounting for more than 1/3 of all deaths. This is surprising since they are normally associated with the emotional tension of living in the rush and worry of a highly industrial and competitive community.

Ten per cent of all cases of cancer are now pulmonary. In recent years there has been a marked increase in this condition, particularly among middle-aged males. Although much of the increase may be due to increased medical vigilance and improved diagnostic methods the position is sufficiently serious to justify the Medical Research Council's recent decision to investigate the situation. Evidence is accumulating to suggest that it may be due to cigarette-smoking.

TABLE SHOWING THE CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH IN OXFORDSHIRE
FOR THE YEAR 1950

| <i>Disease</i> | <i>Total number of deaths</i> | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Heart Disease | ... | ... | ... | 616 |
| Cerebral haemorrhage, thrombosis etc. | 336 | | | |
| Cancer | ... | ... | ... | 275 |
| Infectious diseases | | | | |
| (other than tuberculosis) | ... | ... | ... | 105 |
| Bronchitis | ... | ... | ... | 70 |
| Other circulatory diseases | ... | ... | ... | 65 |
| Gastro-intestinal disease | ... | ... | ... | 33 |
| Uro-genital disease | ... | ... | ... | 47 |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents | ... | ... | ... | 29 |
| Other forms of violence | ... | ... | ... | 53 |

DEATHS FROM CANCER

| <i>Age Group</i> | 0 | 1 | 5 | 15 | 25 | 45 | 65 | 75 | <i>Totals</i> |
|------------------|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|---------------|
| Males | — | 1 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 46 | 40 | 39 | 137 |
| Females | — | — | — | — | 14 | 53 | 31 | 40 | 138 |

Table showing vital statistics for 1950 of each Urban District in the County

| | | Population estimated to midlle of 1950 | Nett Births | | Nett Deaths belonging to the District | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|---|-------------|------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|-------|------------|------|
| | | | Number | Rates | Under 1 Year of Age | | At all Ages | | | |
| | | | | | Number | Rate per 1000 Nett Births | Number | Rates | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Crude | Corrected‡ | 9 | 29 | 205 | Crude | Corrected‡ | |
| Banbury | ... | 19010 | 312 | 16.4 | 16.9 | — | — | 51 | 10.7 | 10.2 |
| Bicester | ... | 4580 | 83 | 18.1 | 18. | 1 | 12 | 58 | 11.1 | 11.6 |
| Chipping Norton | ... | 3812 | 71 | 18.6 | 21.8 | 2 | 19 | 118 | 15.2 | 11.7 |
| Henley | ... | 8370 | 104 | 12.4 | 12.8 | 5 | 91 | 53 | 14.1 | 11. |
| Thame | ... | 3590 | 55 | 15.3 | 16.4 | 2 | 26 | 78 | 14.8 | 12.9 |
| Witney | ... | 6720 | 78 | 11.6 | 11.5 | 2 | 55 | 24 | 11.6 | 11.1 |
| Woodstock | ... | 1758 | 36 | 20.4 | 21.8 | | | | 13.7 | 10. |

‡ A corrected rate having been adjusted for age and sex distribution.

Table showing vital statistics for 1950 of each Rural District in the County

| | | Nett Births | | Nett Deaths belonging to the District | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-------------|-------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|-------------|-------|------------|------|------|
| | | Number | Rates | | Under 1 Year of Age | | At all ages | | | | |
| | | | Crude | Corrected‡ | Number | Rate per 1000 Nett Births | Number | Rates | | | |
| | | | | | | | | Crude | Corrected‡ | | |
| Banbury | ... | ... | 14820 | 243 | 16.3 | 18.2 | 8 | 33 | 213 | 14.4 | 12.1 |
| Bullingdon | ... | ... | 32780 | 644 | 19.6 | 18. | 7 | 11 | 296 | 9.0 | 8.6 |
| Chipping Norton | ... | ... | 15380 | 254 | 16.5 | 18.6 | 2 | 8 | 196 | 12.7 | 10.9 |
| Henley | ... | ... | 19710 | 303 | 15.3 | 16.5 | 10 | 33 | 216 | 11.0 | 10.3 |
| Ploughley | ... | ... | 21190 | 353 | 16.6 | 17.6 | 10 | 28 | 179 | 8.4 | 9.7 |
| Witney | ... | ... | 20340 | 378 | 18.5 | 19.4 | 5 | 13 | 202 | 9.9 | 9.7 |

‡ A corrected rate having been adjusted for age and sex distribution.

Vital Statistics of whole County during 1950 and previous years

| YEAR 1 | Population estimated to middle of each year 2 | BIRTHS | | NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE COUNTY | | |
|-----------|--|-------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| | | Number 3 | Rate per 1000 of population 4 | Under 1 year of Age | | At all Ages |
| | | | | Number 5 | Rate per 1000 Nett Births 6 | |
| 1939 | B.R. 142,530 | 2,116 | 15.2 | 78 | 36.4 | 1,727 |
| 1940 | D.R. 137,660 | 2,175 | 13.8 | 117 | 51.3 | 1,987 |
| 1941 | 157,880 | 2,370 | 13.2 | 110 | ‡41 | 1,931 |
| 1942 | 178,800 | 2,760 | 16.8 | 94 | 33 | 1,706 |
| 1943 | 164,110 | 2,877 | 18.2 | 97 | 34 | 1,726 |
| 1944 | 157,330 | 3,064 | 20.0 | 115 | 37 | 1,779 |
| 1945 | 153,130 | 2,768 | 18.8 | 104 | 37 | 1,684 |
| 1946 | 146,590 | 3,060 | 20.9 | 85 | 27 | 1,753 |
| 1947 | 146,390 | 3,268 | 21.9 | 72 | 22 | 1,709 |
| 1948 | 149,010 | 3,029 | 18.9 | 66 | 21 | 1,632 |
| 1949 | 160,250 | 3,021 | 18.4 | 76 | 25 | 1,781 |
| | *163,500 | | 16.7 | | | |
| | †173,780 | | 16.93 | | | |
| 1950 | 172,060 | 2,914 | 16.93 | 63 | 21.6 | 1,889 |

Crude Corrected§
12.1 (9.8)

* Civilian Population. † Resident Population. ‡ Based upon a total of 2629 births. § A corrected rate having been adjusted for age and sex distribution.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following infectious diseases were notified during the year:

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Smallpox | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| Typhoid | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Paratyphoid Fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| Scarlet Fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 121 |
| Whooping Cough | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 253 |
| Diphtheria | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Erysipelas | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22 |
| Measles | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 524 |
| Pneumonia | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 51 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Dysentery | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17 |
| Cerebro Spinal Fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| Poliomyelitis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22 |
| Malaria (Relapse) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Food Poisoning | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Meningococcal Infection | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| No. cases notified | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| „ „ treated at home | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| „ „ treated in hospital | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| „ „ where vision impaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| „ „ deaths | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |

Puerperal Pyrexia

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| No. cases notified | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| „ „ visited by Council Officer | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| „ „ removed to hospital | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

Influenza is not a notifiable disease despite its endemic prevalence. Precise figures of incidence are, therefore, not available but there were 12 fatal cases during 1950.

The number of notified cases of food poisoning bears no relation whatsoever to the actual incidence. In many instances, cases of food poisoning cause symptoms and signs which are so slight that they do not warrant the attention of the medical practitioner. In these circumstances, there is obviously no question of notification.

Clinical diphtheria has virtually disappeared and the parents' anxiety and enthusiasm for immunization has diminished accordingly. This complacency and apathy must be halted because freedom from clinical diphtheria can only be maintained while the immunity rate is high.

POLIOMYELITIS 1950

Below is appended a special table showing the age and sex distribution of anterior poliomyelitis during the year ended December 31st, 1950. This table has been compiled from the returns furnished by the district medical officers of health who are responsible for the investigation of infectious disease in the field. The table emphasizes the variation in age incidence which has been such a marked feature of the disease in recent years and the explanation for which is not yet known.

| <i>Age Groups</i> | <i>Number of Cases</i> | |
|-------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> |
| 0— 1 | 1 | — |
| 1— 2 | — | — |
| 2— 3 | — | 1 |
| 3— 4 | — | — |
| 4— 5 | 1 | — |
| 5—10 | 5 | 1 |
| 10—15 | — | — |
| 15—20 | 2 | 1 |
| 20—25 | 2 | 2 |
| 25—35 | 2 | 2 |
| 35—45 | 2 | — |
| | <u>15</u> | <u>7</u> |

Since 1947 poliomyelitis has produced the most serious problem in epidemiology. In relation to the population at risk the number clinically affected is small but in terms of human suffering it commands urgent attention. A specific remedy for the disease has yet to be discovered and the results, therefore, of the comprehensive research project sponsored by the Medical Research Council are eagerly awaited.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Maternity and Nursing Homes

Public Health Act, 1936

The County Council has continued to supervise Maternity and Nursing Homes. There were 10 Homes on the Register at the end of the year of which 6 were Maternity Homes.

Year 1950.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Number of applications for registration | Nil |
| Number of Homes registered | Nil |
| Number of Orders made refusing or cancelling registration | Nil |
| Number of appeals against such orders | Nil |
| Number of applications for exemption from registration | Nil |
| Number of cases in which exemption has been granted | Nil |

No application has been made to the County Council by a County District Council for the delegation of powers.

Day Nurseries

There are two day nurseries in the County situated at Henley and Banbury each accommodating 40 children. There has been no serious outbreak of illness in either nursery during the year.

Health Education

The most effective agent in Health Education is the individual advice given by Health Visitors to mothers and children in clinic, school and home. When not occupied in active teaching in the Health Visitor Training School, the Health Visitor Tutor visits the various rural clinics and gives talks and demonstrations.

Premature Births

Particular care is taken of premature babies (defined for their purpose as weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or under at birth), and arrangements are made for obtaining such information from doctors and midwives.

Apart from arrangements made, when desirable, for the child's admission to hospital a special set of equipment is available at any time for the use of the district nurse.

The following are some of the items provided:

- Cot, screens and blankets.
- Feeding bottles.
- Oesophageal feeding apparatus.
- Pipettes for feeding.
- Food thermometer.
- Rectal thermometer.
- etc. etc.

The total number of premature babies born at home during 1950 was 50. There were 3 deaths. This number does not include babies born in maternity homes and hospitals under the National Health Service. The Services of a Consultant Paediatrician are also available for doctors and midwives.

It is considered that the above results are extremely satisfactory and prove the necessity for continued attention to officially organized domiciliary services in rural areas.

Emergency Obstetric Unit

The Emergency Obstetric Unit based on the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, and the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, continue their life-saving work. These units are fully equipped to deal with any medical emergency arising in connection with child-birth. If it is impractical or inadvisable for the patient to be taken to hospital, the hospital is, in fact, taken to the patient—without question or delay.

Care of Illegitimate Children

Whenever possible health visitors pay particular attention to these children. Co-operation is maintained with Moral Welfare Associations and an Officer of the local Association is given facilities for meeting mothers at the offices of the Health Department.

Assistance is also given to the mother when possible to find accommodation both before and after her confinement.

NORTH AND MID-OXON MORAL WELFARE ASSOCIATION

Annual Report for year ending December 31st, 1950

This year the number of new cases referred was 83, this is a slight increase on last year's number, and we continued to visit, or keep in touch, with a number of old cases.

Most of the new cases were Maternity cases, 59 of which were unmarried expectant mothers, and 9 were married women, expecting an illegitimate baby. Of the others two were matrimonial cases, and two preventive cases. The remainder were after-care cases, usually young mothers needing advice, or help in making suitable plans for their baby and themselves, perhaps finding a domestic post where they could have baby with them, or advice about obtaining an affiliation order, or in arranging for their baby to be adopted.

Many of the young unmarried mothers needed help in making suitable arrangements for their confinement. It was possible to make plans for eight of them to go to the Diocesan Maternity Home, nine were able to go to other Moral Welfare Homes, seven to the Oxford City Mother and Baby Hostel, from there they are admitted to a local Hospital, for confinement, afterward returning to the Hostel. Fifteen young mothers were admitted to other Hospitals, the remainder made their own plans. Three young expectant mothers were admitted to one of the Diocesan Shelters and from there went on to a Maternity Home.

With regard to the married women, one was admitted to a Moral Welfare Home, and her baby was placed with adopters, the others went into local hospitals, and were able to keep their baby.

Nine babies have been happily placed with adopters and four were admitted to a Residential Nursery, where their mothers are able to visit them, temporary foster-homes were found for three babies until more definite plans could be made for them.

The problem of the unmarried mother having her second or third baby seems to become more serious, five of the young mothers referred during the year were expecting their second baby, while in the case of four of them, it would be their third child. One feels that they really need special help, but it is not easy to know the best way in which to help them, and always there is the baby to be thought about and cared for.

The preventive cases were young girls giving trouble at home, one in staying out all night, the other by not going regularly to work. Arrangements were made for one to go to a Voluntary Training Home for a period of training, unfortunately she did not stay very long.

It has been possible to do a little more after-care work although not as much as one would wish, distances still hamper after-care visiting and in some instances visiting is not possible because of family difficulties.

I very much appreciate the help given by Mrs. Tomline who is able to give one day a week to assist with the work.

723 visits have been made and 148 callers interviewed while approximately 1010 letters have been written and over 1000 received.

We should again like to express our great appreciation, and thanks to all who support the work of the Association with subscriptions, and the many who remember us in their prayers, we especially need their support as the work holds many problems, which cannot be easily solved. We try to give real friendship and the right kind of help and advice to all who seek our aid. Quite a number of young people appear to be without anyone in whom they can confide, especially those living away from home.

We are very grateful for the continued co-operation of the clergy, the County Public Health Department, Children's Officers, Hospital Almoners and other Authorities. They are always ready to give all possible help to assist in any particular case.

The need for the work is as great as ever, and once again may I ask for the continued support of all who are interested in the work of the Association.

MARGARET J. CHAUNDY

HENLEY MORAL WELFARE ASSOCIATION

Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1950

During the year 40 new cases were dealt with together with 24 older cases needing a certain amount of after-care.

Four hundred and forty visits were made, 248 visitors received at the office, and talks given to the Young Wives' Groups at Rotherfield Peppard, and at St. Mary's Church, Henley.

Inquiries were undertaken for Dr. Barnardo's, the Church of England Children's Society, and the National Council for the Unmarried Mother and her Child, and full reports sent.

Would-be adopters were helped with advice, and in several cases referred to the Oxfordshire Children's Department.

Of the 40 new cases there were 24 unmarried mothers, nine married women with matrimonial or other domestic difficulties, four preventive cases (including a little girl of 5), three girls needing nursery accommodation or foster homes for their children.

Expectant mothers were helped with confinement arrangements and some provision made for the babies. Two girls were admitted to Diocesan Maternity Homes in London, one girl went to Haslemere, but the majority were accommodated at hospitals in Henley, Reading and Oxford.

Eleven girls have returned home with their babies, four babies are now in the care of the Oxfordshire and Reading Children's Departments, several babies were placed with adoptors and have brought great joy to otherwise childless homes, four babies born during the year lived for only a short while. One mother is being helped with a weekly grant from the Church of England Children's Society, two girls have obtained affiliation orders and two private agreements have been made. Three girls have married during the year and have settled down very happily, other girls who have left the district still keep in touch by letter and an occasional visit to the office.

One little boy, formerly resident in the Church of England Children's Society has now joined his mother; another little boy after more than two years in a nursery will soon be going to live with an aunt.

In conclusion my thanks to local organizations for friendly co-operation, to County Officials for ready help and advice, and to Members of my Committee for moral support and much kindness.

J. STOKES

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, SECTION 22

Child Welfare Clinics

There are now 64 Child Welfare Clinics operating in various parts of the County. The attendances during the year have been very satisfactory and these are detailed in the following tables:

The number of infants attending for the first time during the period January 1st—December 31st was

| | |
|--------------|------|
| Under 1 year | 2181 |
| 1—5 years | 596 |

The total attendances during the year were as follows:

| | |
|--------------|--------|
| Under 1 year | 28,020 |
| 1—5 years | 20,740 |

With the introduction of a free comprehensive medical service it was anticipated that attendances at local authority clinics would drop. In almost every part of the country this did in fact occur with a subsequent gradual recovery in attendances. This has been the experience in Oxfordshire where attendances for all ages has increased during 1950.

List of Clinics

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Wroxton | Horspath |
| Adderbury | Checkendon |
| Swalcliffe | Yarnton |
| Hook Norton | Bicester |
| Chipping Norton | Kidlington |
| Kingham | Islip |
| Deddington | Sandhills |
| Fritwell | Wheatley |
| Charlbury | Rose Hill |
| Enstone | Littlemore |
| Finstock | Dorchester |
| Great Tew | Clifton Hampden |
| Chadlington | Garsington |
| Burford | Thame |
| Milton-u.-Wychwood | Great Milton |
| Leafield | Tetsworth |
| Bampton | Stadhampton |
| Filkins | Watlington |
| Carterton | Chinnor |
| Witney | Benson |
| Northleigh | Nettlebed |
| Eynsham | Peppard |
| Handborough | Goring |
| Woodstock | Micklands |
| Kirtlington | Mapledurham |
| Standlake | Henley |
| Stanton Harcourt | Minister Lovell |
| Benson R.A.F. | Upper Heyford R.A.F. |
| Chalgrove | Banbury |
| Middle Barton | Shilton |
| Bloxham | Tackley |
| Chesterton | Whitchurch |

REPORT OF SENIOR DENTAL OFFICER ON THE INSPEC-
TION AND TREATMENT OF EXPECTANT AND NURSING
MOTHERS ALSO CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS, FROM
JANUARY 1st to DECEMBER 31st, 1950.

Pre-School Children

Although parents are informed by the Health Visitors at the Infant Welfare Centres that they should take their children to the dental clinics for advice and treatment, it is only when the children have had a few sleepless nights from toothache that they commence making inquiries.

115 children were treated.

Expectant and Nursing Mothers

30 Expectant and Nursing Mothers attended the Banbury and Chipping Norton Clinics.

| | <i>Examined</i> | <i>Needing Treatment</i> | <i>Treated</i> | <i>Made Dentally Fit</i> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Expectant and Nursing Mothers | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 |
| Children under five | 138 | 115 | 115 | 115 |

TREATMENT

| | <i>Extrac- tions</i> | <i>Anaesthetics</i> | | <i>Fill'gs</i> | <i>Silver Ni- trate treat- ment</i> | <i>Dentures provided</i> | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|---|------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | <i>Local</i> | <i>Gen'al</i> | | | <i>Com- plete</i> | <i>Par- tial</i> |
| Expectant and Nursing Mothers | 45 | 5 | 22 | 17 | — | 7 | 8 |
| Children under five | 118 | 95 | 20 | 19 | 73 | — | — |

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, SECTION 23

Midwifery Service

The Oxfordshire Nursing Federation continues to act as the agent of the County Council in providing domiciliary midwifery and nursing services excellent co-operation continues between the County Council and the Federation. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee have been co-opted to the General Purposes Committee of the Nursing Federation, and the County Treasurer has been elected Honorary Treasurer to the Nursing Federation.

The supply of new cars where necessary has proved a real difficulty during the year, and it must be emphasized that the maintenance of reliable vehicles for midwifery work is an absolute necessity.

The following table gives the work done by the district nurse-midwives for the period January 1st to December 31st, 1950.

| Midwifery | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|--|--------|--------|
| <i>Midwives' Cases</i> | | | | | 1949 | 1950 |
| Number of confinements | ... | ... | ... | | 976 | 885 |
| Number of ante-natal visits | ... | ... | ... | | 11,643 | 11,840 |
| Number of visits during the puerperium | ... | | | | 16,908 | 15,695 |
| Number of other visits, post-natal (combined maternity and midwifery cases) | ... | ... | | | 993 | 1185 |
| <i>Doctors' Cases (acting as maternity nurse)</i> | | | | | | |
| Number of confinements | ... | ... | ... | | 219 | 174 |
| Number of ante-natal visits | ... | ... | ... | | 1574 | 1719 |
| Number of visits during the puerperium | ... | | | | 3525 | 2701 |

Staff

All members of the staff have now been trained in the use of gas and air, and apparatus has been supplied to each midwife. The number of staff as at December 31st, 1950, was as follows:

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Number of district nurse-midwives | ... | ... | ... | ... | 51 |
| Vacancies | | | | ... | 4 |

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY HEALTH—ANNUAL REPORT 6

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, SECTION 24

Health Visiting

The County Superintendent Nursing Officer, Miss M. C. Owen, is in charge of the staff of health visitors, as follows:

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------------------|
| Superintendent Health Visitor | ... | ... | ... | Miss M. C. Owen |
| Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor | | | ... | Miss C. E. Henry |
| Health Visitor Tutor | ... | ... | ... | Miss B. Cox |
| 32 full time Health Visitors. | | | | |

The Health Visitors give advice to expectant and nursing mothers, and at the same time act generally with regard to the aftercare of patients who have been in hospital. They are also doing a considerable amount of work at present by finding suitable persons to act as home helps.

Domiciliary Visits made by Health Visitors

To expectant Mothers

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| First visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 415 |
| Total visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 621 |

To Children under 1 year of age

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| First visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3048 |
| Total visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 26,978 |

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| <i>To Children between the ages of 1 and 5 years</i> | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 33,824 |
| <i>Other Cases</i> | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11787 |

Training School for Health Visitors

At a time when many Training Schools find difficulty in obtaining pupils it is encouraging to report that our School continues to attract enough students to maintain a full course. It would be difficult to choose a more suitable locality for such a venture. The University and other Teaching and Training Bodies in Oxford ensure an excellent source of lecturers in all fields of medicine, nursing and social science. In addition to our own rural services, students have access to the services of the City of Oxford through the courtesy of Dr. J. F. Warin, the Medical Officer of Health. It would be impossible to acknowledge in this short annotation the help and co-operation of all who contribute to its continued success.

During 1950 there were 21 students of whom 16 passed the examination at the first time of sitting and three at the second time.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade continue to allow rooms to be used at Gloucester Green for the purpose of lectures and tutorial classes.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, SECTION 25

Home Nursing

The Oxfordshire Nursing Federation has continued to provide the Home Nursing Service in conjunction with the Midwifery Service, and the standard maintained by the district nurses throughout the County has been very high. This Service is particularly important at the present time because of the shortage of hospital accommodation and

the more rapid turnover of hospital beds has meant that many persons are being discharged from hospital who still require skilled dressings and nursing attention.

| | | | | | 1949 | 1950 |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|--------|
| Number of cases | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3416 | 3416 |
| Number of visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | 66,655 | 68,937 |

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, SECTION 26
Vaccination

There has been profound national concern at the decrease in vaccinations since the National Health Service Act ceased to make it compulsory. In the past year there has been an encouraging increase which may be due to the occasional smallpox scares which occurred in other parts of the country.

The total number of vaccinations performed during the year 1950 was 2039, and of these 1639 were primary vaccinations in the following age groups:

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Year of birth | 1950 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 815 |
| | 1946—1949 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 684 |
| | 1936—1945 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 75 |
| | 1935 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 65 |

The number of persons revaccinated during the year was 400.

Immunization

Unfortunately the demand for diphtheria immunization is falling. As has been mentioned elsewhere in this report this complacency must be halted before the immunological state of the child population falls to a critical level.

During the year the total number of children in the County who received the completed primary injections against diphtheria was 1950, and of these 1800 were under 5 years of age, the remaining 150 were children of school age between 5 and 14 years.

The total number of boosting doses given during the year, irrespective of age, was 1862.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, SECTION 27
Ambulance Service

- No. of ambulances 19
(including 3 reserve)
- No. of calls 5639
(including 1706 accident and other emergency calls).
- No. of patients carried 8543
- Total mileage 158,277.

| Hospital Car Service—1950 | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | <i>Mileage</i> | <i>No. of journeys</i> | <i>No. of patients</i> |
| Banbury | 56,542 | 1,988 | 2,594 |
| Bicester | 76,828 | 2,167 | 2,570 |
| Bullington | 35,296 | 1,185 | 1,462 |
| Burford | 65,480 | 1,356 | 1,908 |
| Chipping Norton | 48,747 | 1,109 | 2,002 |
| Watlington | 14,800 | 440 | 513 |
| Oxford City | 36,749 | 915 | 1,251 |
| Henley | 62,887 | 1,850 | 2,070 |
| Berkshire | 2,298 | 129 | 133 |
| Total | 399,627 miles | 11,139 | 14,503 |

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, SECTION 28

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

The provision of care and after-care for tuberculous persons is undertaken by the Oxfordshire Care Committee as agents of the Council. This committee has carried out care and after-care work for many years in a most efficient manner and the Council is fortunate in having the opportunity of officially appointing them as their agents for this purpose.

The work of the Care Committee can be summarized as follows:

1. Assistance towards the payment of rent or any special family expenses.
2. Assistance in rehabilitation.
3. Provision of clothing—Cases which cannot be assisted by the National Assistance Board.
4. Payment of fares of relatives to hospitals which cannot be met by the National Assistance Board.
5. Provision of bedding.
6. Boarding out of children.
7. Provision of extra nourishment.

So far as other patients are concerned agreement has been reached with the Regional Hospital Board for information to be given to the department in respect of persons discharged from hospital who need and are willing to receive after-care.

The following table shows the work done by the Health Visitors under this Section during the year:

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Visits to tuberculous persons | ... | ... | ... | 4211 |
| Visits to infectious disease cases | ... | ... | ... | 1212 |
| Visits to old persons | ... | ... | ... | 1802 |

Facilities are available for the supply of comforts and nursing requisites for the nursing of patients in their homes or who have been discharged from hospital in order to continue treatment at home. Some articles are provided free of charge whilst for the use of others a small charge is made for hire.

These facilities are available through the eight B.R.C.S. Medical Loan Depots and the eleven S.J.A.B. Medical Comforts Depots.

In the event of anything being required which cannot be provided from the above-mentioned sources, provision is made directly through the Health Department, e.g. air beds and rings, mattresses, bed rests, rubber bed-pans, etc. During the year such articles were supplied by the department.

Particular mention should be made of the fact that persons requiring convalescent holiday treatment may now receive this under this Section of the National Health Service Act.

During the year 71 persons were sent to convalescent homes and recuperative centres.

Extra nourishment was provided in one case.

Cases of malnutrition among elderly pensioners were investigated.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, SECTION 29

Domestic Help Scheme

The rapid expansion of the Domestic Help Scheme has been one of the striking features during the year. It was formerly provided to cover confinement cases, but the Scheme has now extended to cover a large number of chronic sick cases and is involving the County Council in considerable expense. At the same time, it must be pointed out that without the Domestic Help Scheme many persons would require institutional care who can now continue to live at home, providing that help is supplied. This effects a considerable saving both to other Committees of the County Council and to the Regional Hospital Boards.

Home helps were provided in 169 cases, of which 37 were maternity, 18 tuberculosis, and 114 others. Health visitors paid 4492 visits in connection with such help.

ALMONER'S REPORT, FOR THE V.D. DEPARTMENT, RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY, 1950

In 1950, as in 1949, the most important and satisfactory fact to be noted is the continued decline in the number of patients. The total number of new patients discovered to be suffering from syphilis was about the same as in the previous year, but many of these were persons

who had been infected many years ago. Actually the number of patients with recently acquired syphilis (five men and one woman) was less than half that of the previous year, and about one-tenth of the figure for 1948. In the case of patients found to be suffering from gonorrhoea, the figures for women were only slightly below the 1949 figures (seven compared with nine), but the figures for men were exactly half those of 1949 and a little over a quarter those of 1948, the figures being:—

| 1950 | 1949 | 1948 |
|------|------|------|
| 21 | 42 | 78 |

The Almoner has continued to see every new woman patient and as many as possible of the men found to be infected. Every effort has been made to get all possible contacts to attend and in six cases the Almoner herself got in touch with the contacts in order to persuade them to attend, and visited four of them. Four out of the six attended. The Almoner has also continued to watch attendances and letters are sent to all patients who fail to attend. Further letters are sent if necessary and visits are paid if possible.

In spite of the drop in numbers the Almoner's work for the patients continues in the same way as before. The main thing which distinguishes nearly all the women patients is their dislike of having to attend the clinic and the fear of meeting someone there who knows them. The Almoner can help quite a lot in this by understanding sympathy and practical help. Also the V.D. patient generally suffers from the inability to confide in anyone at home, and often finds emotional release in talking over her difficulties with the Almoner. If she has to be admitted for treatment the Almoner can help her make the necessary arrangements and can perhaps suggest an excuse she can give to inquiring friends and relatives for the reason for her admission. We get many women patients who are discovered to be suffering from syphilis who have no idea how they have acquired the disease and to whom the news comes as a great shock. They often feel a sense of overpowering shame and suffer a severe emotional shock. These patients need very sympathetic handling and much patience and encouragement.

We occasionally get a married woman or widow who besides suffering from syphilis finds she is going to have an illegitimate child. One such, a widow, needed a great deal of help over a long period. She was a woman in a resident domestic post; her parents lived far away and she did not want them to know she was having a child. Unfortunately

besides suffering from syphilis she also had heart trouble which meant that she was not strong enough to work full time nor to look after her own child. Arrangements therefore had to be made for the child to be cared for and accommodation to be found for the mother until she was fit to work again.

It may be of interest to note that two of the patients who have needed most help during the year were men, neither of them recently infected. One was a man, the father of a large family of dependent children, who suddenly went blind, as the result of syphilis contracted during the war for which he had received insufficient treatment. This man naturally required much encouragement and practical help during his period of treatment, and later, rehabilitation; this last being given in co-operation with the Blind Association. He has now returned from the Rehabilitation Centre for the blind to which he was sent and it is hoped that he may be found suitable work shortly in a local firm. Another was a man whose difficulties were mainly due not to the fact that he was suffering from syphilis, but rather to difficulties of the disease combined with personal inadequacy, and an unfortunate marriage. All these had caused him to sink lower and lower in the social scale and move from one temporary job to another although he was a qualified professional man. At the time he was first seen by the Almoner he appeared to be friendless and hopeless, and was greatly in need of encouragement and some steady, disinterested and practical help. Later he also received help from other sources and was successful by his own exertions in obtaining a slightly better position with a local employer. After some months he has now obtained a promising position with a very well-known firm where his special training will be of use. His weakness of character may still prevent him from 'making good' but he has climbed up several rungs of the ladder and it may now be possible for him to maintain the place in society which was formerly his.

N. M. COGGIN,

Almoner to the V.D. Department.

TUBERCULOSIS SERVICE

(Annual Report, 1950, of DR. N. J. ENGLAND, Chest Physician, United Oxford Hospitals, adviser on Care and After Care to Council.)

The following table shows the number of deaths and rates per 100,000 living in the County since 1914.

| | <i>Pulmonary</i> | | <i>All forms</i> | |
|------|------------------|----------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| | <i>Number</i> | <i>Rate per</i> 100,000 | <i>Number</i> | <i>Rate per</i> 100,000 |
| 1914 | 104 | 75 | 130 | 93 |
| 1915 | 113 | 89 | 141 | 117 |
| 1916 | 112 | 92 | 150 | 123 |
| 1917 | 168 | 144 | 195 | 168 |
| 1918 | 142 | 119 | 162 | 135 |
| 1919 | 105 | 84 | 137 | 109 |
| 1920 | 90 | 69 | 107 | 82 |
| 1921 | 99 | 75 | 121 | 92 |
| 1922 | 97 | 73 | 113 | 85 |
| 1923 | 89 | 66 | 108 | 81 |
| 1924 | 86 | 64 | 107 | 79 |
| 1925 | 72 | 53 | 96 | 71 |
| 1926 | 82 | 61 | 95 | 70 |
| 1927 | 99 | 72 | 118 | 86 |
| 1928 | 67 | 48 | 85 | 62 |
| 1929 | 91 | 70 | 107 | 83 |
| 1930 | 73 | 57 | 94 | 74 |
| 1931 | 61 | 47 | 74 | 57 |
| 1932 | 64 | 49 | 71 | 54 |
| 1933 | 63 | 48 | 77 | 58 |
| 1934 | 54 | 41 | 66 | 50 |
| 1935 | 54 | 41 | 70 | 53 |
| 1936 | 56 | 42 | 72 | 54 |
| 1937 | 38 | 28 | 51 | 38 |
| 1938 | 42 | 31 | 50 | 37 |
| 1939 | 51 | 36 | 60 | 42 |
| 1940 | 45 | 28 | 55 | 35 |
| 1941 | 64 | 34 | 73 | 41 |
| 1942 | 54 | 32 | 67 | 40 |
| 1943 | 45 | 28 | 53 | 33 |
| 1944 | 53 | 35 | 63 | 41 |
| 1945 | 45 | 30 | 55 | 37 |
| 1946 | 51 | 34 | 62 | 42 |
| 1947 | 48 | 32 | 57 | 38 |
| 1948 | 51 | 31 | 56 | 35 |
| 1949 | 25 | 15 | 34 | 20 |
| 1950 | 33 | 19 | 37 | 21 |

Vital Statistics

The incidence of Tuberculosis, as shown by new Notifications and Deaths, is demonstrated in the following table:

| NEW CASES (<i>notifications</i>) | | | | | DEATHS | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------|----|----------------------|----|-------------------|------------------|----|----------------------|----|
| <i>Age Groups</i> | <i>Pulmonary</i> | | <i>Non-Pulmonary</i> | | <i>Age Groups</i> | <i>Pulmonary</i> | | <i>Non-Pulmonary</i> | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 0— | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0— | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1— | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1— | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5— | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 5— | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 10— | 2 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 15— | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 15— | 19 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 25— | 5 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| 20— | 17 | 9 | 1 | 0 | 45— | 12 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| 25— | 10 | 14 | 1 | 6 | 65— | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 35— | 18 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 75— | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 45— | 8 | 7 | 1 | 0 | | | | | |
| 55— | 7 | 1 | 0 | 1 | | | | | |
| 65— | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | | | | | |
| | — | — | — | — | | — | — | — | — |
| | 91 | 58 | 13 | 18 | | 23 | 10 | 3 | 1 |
| | — | — | — | — | | — | — | — | — |

Epidemiological

No further studies of trends in morbidity or mortality were carried out during 1950. It is hoped that a further examination of post-war trends will be possible during 1951, to complete the analysis published in the 1947 report. Clinical observations suggest that young adult disease is still the most important factor in Oxfordshire. Cases referred by General Practitioners and contact examination are the main avenues of intimation, and in this respect I should like to pay a sincere tribute to the Oxfordshire Practitioners. In spite of their many difficulties, they are ever watchful for the early signs of Tuberculosis, and the majority of patients referred to the Clinic arrive in the comparatively early stages of disease.

Clinic Work

It is not possible to give a detailed analysis of Oxfordshire patients dealt with at the Clinics, as the Clinics are no longer restricted to persons living in Oxfordshire. It is only possible to record that attendances are increasing steadily and that it will be necessary to increase the number of sessions unless alternative methods of carrying out Clinic work can be operated.

Towards the close of 1950, arrangements were completed to carry out B.C.G. vaccination of contacts and Hospital Staffs. Some initial difficulties were experienced with the supply of vaccine and an epidemic of Poliomyelitis caused additional delay in the Banbury Area. The number of completed cases for 1950 is small, but offers to vaccinate are welcomed by the general public, and it is expected that the ready response will be evident in the 1951 Returns. It is regretted that the Ministry of Health will not permit B.C.G. vaccination of School Leavers. The predominance of young adult Tuberculosis in Oxfordshire can only be combated by some method which will raise resistance to Tuberculous infection. There are no obvious 'black spots' in the Oxfordshire community comparable with the Industrial North; nutrition appears to be at a good level so that the obvious solution appears to be some form of active immunization.

Institutional Treatment

No material alteration in the arrangements for treatment took place in 1950.

Care and After-Care

The good work of the Voluntary Care Committee continued during 1950 under the Presidency of Dr. W. Stobie and with Mrs. Gaskell, Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Home bound patients have received very valuable assistance from the County Occupational Therapist—Miss Rostance, with the result that prolonged domiciliary treatment, so irksome in the past, has been relieved of much of its tedium. Several patients have received Rehabilitation Therapy, prior to return to work, at the Ministry of Labour Centre at Egham. The results have been very satisfactory and encouraging. It is not possible to use the Egham Centre for sputum positive cases, and the only Centres available for the rehabilitation of such patients are Papworth and Preston Hall.

Unsatisfactory housing conditions are a frequent source of complaint, though gross overcrowding is uncommon. After a conference with the Medical Officers concerned, it was agreed that the medical certificates issued to patients recommending housing priority should conform to the Oxford City Standard. It is hoped in this way to secure adequate medical priority and at the same time avoid many of the difficulties experienced from inadequate definition of the relevant factors.

Very satisfactory liaison has now been effected between the Local Authority, Health Visitor Service and the Hospital Almoner Service. No difficulties have arisen from apparent overlap of functions and the Case Conferences which take place each week provide ample opportunity for discussion of the many problems which arise in the management of patient and family.

OXFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS

Work of the Care Committee

The Association places its services at the disposal of the County Council, Borough and District Councils and of doctors in the County engaged in the campaign against tuberculosis, for the following purposes:

(a) Functions where the whole or part cost may be the subject of a refund by the Oxfordshire County Council.

Boarding out convalescent home for children

For the care of predisposed and delicate children the Association retains four beds at a cottage home at Hermitage on the Berkshire Downs. This home is approved by the Berkshire County Council for the reception of children and is subject to periodical inspection by the officers of that Authority. However, the need for providing for young children whilst the mother is ill is not so acute as in the past, as a special Department has been set up by the Oxfordshire County Council and in consequence arrangements are being considered for the agreement to be terminated.

Payment of fares for patients

Grants are available for patients travelling to Sanatoria or Convalescent Homes. It is not possible to pay fares for patients attending clinics for examination, etc., but where need can be established the patient can make an application for refund of fares to the National Assistance Board acting as agents for the Regional Hospitals Board.

Provision of nursing aids and requisites

Arrangements are made for the provision of nursing aids in conjunction with the Health Department of the Oxfordshire County Council.

Provision of Beds and Bedding

Beds and bedclothes are supplied on loan on the advice of the Chest Physicians.

Free Milk

Grants are made on the advice of the Chest Physicians and Almoners.

This service is gradually expanding and at March 31st, 1951, 120 patients were in receipt of grants of free milk.

The original issue of the order is dependent on an investigation by the Almoner and as far as possible the circumstances are reviewed every two or three months.

(b) Functions which can only be charged to the Care Committee's funds accruing from voluntary subscriptions and seal sales.

Resettlement

Grants are made to patients when in the opinion of the Chest Physician a change of vocation is necessary. Very often the only possible source of remuneration will be to establish the patient in a small home business such as weaving, toymaking, etc. Such a step is only taken after full consultation with the Ministry of Labour and any relevant local inquiries have been made.

Personal Family Expenses and Special Objects

This heading covers a multitude of expenses which the normal citizen can accept as everyday occurrences, but which to the family already bearing the burden of reduced income due to a member suffering from tuberculosis, assume exaggerated proportions and frequently lead to serious worry and deterioration in the patient's mental and physical condition.

The Secretary has a special Cash Account for cases of urgent relief and in consultation with the chest physician and almoners is empowered to make direct provisional grants to avoid undue delay.

Clothing

The problem of assistance towards purchases of clothing can very often be settled by reference to the Red Cross, Women's Voluntary Services and National Assistance Board, but grants may still be required when these sources of supply are not available.

Payment of Fares for relatives to visit Patients in Sanatoria

When a patient is admitted to a Sanatorium it is essential that he or she should be kept in touch with the home by means of regular visits by the father, mother, husband or wife, and more often than not the failure to visit is attributable to financial difficulties. In the past assistance given has been recoverable by means of the grant from the Oxon County Council. A ruling has now been received that such expenditure will be inadmissible for a County Council grant and will therefore fall as a charge to the voluntary funds of the Committee.

EXAMPLES OF CASES RELIEVED DURING 1950

Convalescent Home Fees

Woman (Drayton St. Leonards).

Girl (Banbury).

Girl (Bicester).

Boy (Rose Hill).

Man (Rose Hill).

Grants to Patients at Christmas

Grants to Cold Arbour Hospital and Osler Pavilion for the special patient's Christmas Fund: Special grants were made to approximately 44 patients at home, on the advice of the Almoner.

Special Objects

- Man (Kidlington)—maintenance of insurance premiums.
- Man (Emmer Green)—grant towards cost of cultivation of garden.
- Man (Bix)—grant towards cost of garden tools and seed.
- Man (Ewelme)—payment of arrears of rent.
- Family (Bladon)—grant towards cost of holiday.
- Man (Barford St. Michael)—grant towards cost of holiday for child.
- Man (Witney)—grant towards reduction of debts.
- Man (Woodcote)—payment of patient's contributions under Home Help Scheme.
- Man (Banbury)—grant for purchase of furniture.
- Man (Crowmarsh)—payment of removal expenses.
- Man (Thame)—grant for cultivation of garden.
- Man (Witney)—grant towards reduction of debts.
- Man (Witney)—grant towards reduction of domestic debts.
- Man (Kidlington)—grant towards reduction of debts.
- Girl (Banbury)—grant for singing lessons.
- Women (Cuxham)—grant for payment of electricity and rates demands.
- Man (Witney)—grant for purchase of coal.
- Man (Kidlington)—grant for payment of rates.
- Man (Banbury)—grant for purchase of coal and payment of electricity bills.
- Man (Bicester)—grant for purchase of winter fuel.
- Man (Nuffield)—grant for purchase of winter fuel.
- Man (Littlemore)—grant for purchase of winter fuel.
- Man (Witney)—grant for purchase of coal.
- Woman (Henley)—grant for purchase of coal.
- Man (Henley)—grant for payment of gas and electricity bills.
- Girl (Binfield Heath)—grant for payment of hire purchase balance on wireless set.
- Family (Barford St. Michael)—grant for reduction of hire purchase debt on furniture.
- Man (Baldon)—grant for payment of grocery debts.
- Man (Dorchester)—grant for purchase of linoleum and curtains.
- Woman (Ascott-u-Wychwood)—grant for purchase of shoes for children.
- Woman (Rose Hill)—grant for payment of instalments on sewing machine.
- Subscription to special National magazine.
- Children (Barford St. Michael)—a special grant was authorized to enable the mother to purchase milk. These children are close contacts to a case of tuberculosis but as they are not actually suffering from the disease, the milk cannot be supplied under the Extra Nourishment Scheme.

Owing to the nature of the construction of the Chest Clinic at the Churchill Hospital difficulty has been experienced in keeping the treatment and waiting rooms cool in the very hot weather. This was brought to the notice of the Care Committee who undertook the cost of purchasing electric fans to be installed in the rooms used by the patients.

Rehabilitation and Resettlement

Man (Fritwell)—grant for the purchase of a small motor cycle to travel to work. It is essential that this man should keep his job as owing to his disabilities a very limited field of work is available for him.

Clothing

Man (Garsington)—grant for purchase of clothes for children.

Man (Mapledurham)—grant for purchase of clothes.

Woman (Kidlington)—grant towards cost of clothes for children.

Woman (Horspath)—grant for purchase of new clothes.

Woman (Henley)—grant for purchase of clothes.

Woman (Burford)—grant for purchase of clothes for children.

Man (Hardwick)—grant for purchase of clothes for son.

Man (Banbury)—grant for purchase of clothes and shoes.

Woman (Benson)—grant for purchase of clothes.

Woman (Chipping Norton)—grant for purchase of dressmaking materials.

Woman (Middle Barton)—grant for purchase of dressmaking materials.

Bedding and Bedclothes

Man (Toot Baldon)—grant for purchase of bedding and bedclothes.

(Girl) Carterton)—grant for purchase of blankets.

Family (Burford)—grant for purchase of bedding and sheets.

Girl (Caversham)—grant for purchase of mattress and blankets.

Woman (Henley)—grant for purchase of blankets and bed linen.

Boy (Barford St. Michael)—grant for purchase of bed and bedding.

Man (Witney)—grant for purchase of bedding.

Fares of Relatives Visiting Patients in Sanatoria

Man (Forest Hill)—visits to Osler Pavilion.

Man (Adderbury)—visits to Osler Pavilion.

Woman (Minister Lovell)—visits to children in Slade Hospital and Osler Pavilion.

Woman (Kidlington)—visits to children at Banbury.

Man (Banbury)—visits to Osler Pavilion.

Woman (Hook Norton)—visits to son in Cold Ash Hospital.

Man (Bloxham)—visits to Osler Pavilion.
 Man (Barford St. Michael)—visits to Peppard Sanatorium.
 Man (Banbury)—visits to Osler Pavilion.
 Woman (Banbury)—visits to Peppard Sanatorium.
 Girl (Banbury)—visits to Osler Pavilion.
 Girl (Henley)—visits to Osler Pavilion.
 Man (Curbridge)—visits to Osler Pavilion.
 Girl (Warborough)—visits to Osler Pavilion.
 Girl (Freeland)—visits to Osler Pavilion.

Store of Blankets

In view of the very sharp increase in the cost of woollen materials an order was placed with the Witney Blanket Co. for the supply of 20 blankets to be kept in store and used as and when required by the Almoner.

B.C.G. VACCINATION

The Annual Report from the Consultant Physician in charge of B.C.G. Vaccination states that 46 contacts were vaccinated of whom 31 were under the age of 5 years. In all instances vaccination was successful.

| | <i>Under 5 years</i> | <i>Over 5 years</i> |
|---------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Males | 18 | 5 |
| Females | 13 | 10 |

ANNUAL REPORT ON OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY YEAR ENDING MARCH 1951

The scheme for Occupational Therapy is well under way now and running smoothly after twelve months. There is close co-operation with the Chest Clinic, where the Occupational Therapist attends a Case Conference of Doctors, Health Visitors and Almoners each week, at which the patient's various medical, social and economic problems are discussed. There is a close link also with the hospitals, and from time to time with the Ministry of Pensions and the Ministry of Labour, also the Red Cross.

During the year, 157 patients have been treated, and many more visited. 1132 visits have been made, at an average of 30 per week. At first it was possible to visit each patient weekly for a time, but as numbers increased, this was out of the question. Now they are visited

fortnightly while learning a craft, and less frequently when the need for instruction and close supervision has diminished. In this way it is possible to cope more or less adequately with the sixty tuberculous patients whose demands are most pressing and the dozen or so other chronically ill people for whom help is also greatly needed. It is not possible however, under these conditions, to achieve the high standard of craftsmanship which is most desirable and necessary if the patients are to be able to sell the goods they make, and it has been increasingly evident during the last few months that the Occupational Therapist is giving time to work which could be done by an untrained worker. In addition to visiting patients and preparing work for them, the following must be done:

Attend Case Conferences weekly.

Attend Committees—Care Committee.

Helping Hand Committee.

Home Care Sub-Committee of the Ministry of Pensions.

Attend to correspondence with hospital authorities.

Attend to correspondence with firms re-ordering materials.

Attend to correspondence with patients.

See representatives of manufacturing firms.

Obtain and keep up-to-date notes on case histories of patients. (It is essential to see the notes regularly to relate the occupation to the condition of the patient.)

Write reports on progress of patients.

Write reports on work as a whole.

Unpack and check stores.

Wrap and check goods going to the Helping Hand Shop.

As the cost of living in general has risen, so have the prices of almost all materials used in craftwork and several are already in short supply. It has been necessary to lay in greater stocks of some of these materials than would normally be considered adequate, to maintain the supply to the patient of high quality material to work with, at a comparatively reasonable cost.

B. H. ROSTANCE

Occupational Therapist

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, SECTIONS 28 and 51
Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913 to 1938

During the year ended December 31st, 1950, 45 (26 male and 19 female) new cases were ascertained.

The 45 cases were dealt with as follows:

| | <i>Males</i> | <i>Females</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|--|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Admitted to Certified Institutions ... | 7 | 5 | 12 |
| Placed under Guardianship | 2 | — | 2 |
| Voluntary Supervision... | 16 | 11 | 27 |
| Statutory Supervision ... | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| | — | — | — |
| | 26 | 19 | 45 |
| | — | — | — |
| Of whom awaiting institution treat- ment | 6 | 5 | 11 |

The number of defectives ascertained by the Council to be subject to be dealt with, or who might become subject to be dealt with, on December 31st, 1950, was 497.

Institutional Accommodation

On December 31st, 1950, there were 179 persons detained under Order in Institutions and 30 under guardianship.

During the year ended December 31st, 1950 :

| | | |
|---|--------|----|
| No. of Orders made under the Mental Deficiency Acts | ... | 28 |
| Of whom (a) admitted to Institutions | | 22 |
| (b) placed under guardianship | | 6 |
| | | — |
| | | 28 |
| | | — |
| No. of Varying Orders... | | 7 |
| No. of Orders by Secretary of State under Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, Section 9 | | 2 |
| No. of urgent cases admitted temporarily to Places of Safety | | 13 |
| Notifications by County Education Authority | | 16 |

On December 31st, 1950, there were 179 persons detained under Order in Institutions, distributed as follows:

| <i>Institution</i> | | | | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Borocourt | ... | ... | ... | 21 | 27 | 48 |
| Brentry Colony | ... | ... | ... | 3 | — | 3 |
| Cotshill Hospital | ... | ... | ... | 25 | 32 | 57 |
| Cumnor Rise | ... | ... | ... | — | 2 | 2 |
| Easthampstead | ... | ... | ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| Etloe House | ... | ... | ... | — | 1 | 1 |
| Hildenborough | ... | ... | ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| Hortham Colony | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Manor House, Aylesbury | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Moss Side | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Old House, Wheatley | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| Pewsey Hospital | ... | ... | ... | 7 | 6 | 13 |
| Rampton | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Rock Hall House, Bath | ... | ... | ... | — | 1 | 1 |
| Royal Earlswood | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| Sandlebridge Homes | ... | ... | ... | — | 1 | 1 |
| Stallington Hall | ... | ... | ... | 2 | — | 2 |
| St. Francis School, Buntingford | ... | ... | ... | 8 | — | 8 |
| St. Joseph's Home, Sheffield | ... | ... | ... | — | 1 | 1 |
| St. Mary's Home, Alton | ... | ... | ... | — | 4 | 4 |
| St. Mary's, Wallingford | ... | ... | ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| St. Raphael's, Barvin Park | ... | ... | ... | 3 | — | 3 |
| Stoke Park Colony | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Wayland House | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| Winslow Hospital | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| | | | | 87 | 92 | 179 |

On Licence December 31st, 1950

| | | | | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-----|-----|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Not included in above | Hortham | ... | ... | — | 3 | 3 |
| | Borocourt | ... | ... | 7 | 7 | 14 |
| | Cotshill Hospital | ... | ... | 2 | — | 2 |
| | Pewsey Hospital | ... | ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| | Hildenborough | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| | Brentry Colony | ... | ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| | | | | 12 | 11 | 23 |

At the end of the year there were 22 male and 14 female mental defectives who had been referred to the Regional Hospital Board and who were on the waiting list for admission to Institutions.

HOME TEACHING FOR MENTAL DEFECTIVES

I assumed my appointment as Home Teacher on October 1st, so little progress was made in 1950.

In October all 36 children who were listed as 'in urgent need' of home teaching, were visited, and after conferring with the mental health officers and studying the case histories, 14 or 15 were chosen to receive regular weekly periods of one hour, divided into 4 subjects.

Several more were started upon simple handwork; others were promised instruction the following term, the mothers undertaking to prepare them for it. Each child was to receive 12 weekly lessons and, if sufficient progress had been made, to continue the following year.

Most children showed satisfactory progress in November and December and were taught:

drawing, painting,
simple handiwork and sewing,
letters, numbers, colours, money, time-telling,
jigsaw puzzles, intelligence games

with emphasis on:

speech and vocabulary training.

Some of the more advanced attempted dictation, spelling, simple arithmetic, meccano, dressmaking etc. All qualified to continue and several more pupils were added.

Co-operation from parents was very helpful. A room was always put at my disposal for the lesson and the children well prepared.

The pupils themselves were very friendly and the weekly lesson became quite an event for them. They tried hard with homework and though progress was very slow in most cases, it was perceptible enough to be encouraging both to the children and to the teacher.

J. Randall

Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts

The following table shows how patients were dealt with under these Acts during the year:

| | | <i>Patients</i> | |
|---|------------------|------------------|-----|
| <i>Mental Treatment Acts</i> — <i>Voluntary</i> | | Admitted | 135 |
| | | Discharged | 89 |
| | | Deaths | 7 |
| | <i>Temporary</i> | Admitted | 5 |
| | | Discharged | Nil |
| | | Deaths | 1 |
| <i>Lunacy Acts</i> — | | Admitted | 107 |
| | | Discharged | 39 |
| | | Deaths | 29 |
| | | Private Patients | 1 |
| | | On Trial | 15 |
| | | Transfer Orders | 2 |

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

**FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK DIARIES AND ARTIFICIAL
CREAM) ACT, 1950**

PUBLIC HEALTH (CONDENSED MILK) REGULATIONS

PUBLIC HEALTH (DRIED MILK) REGULATIONS

**PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES ETC. IN FOOD)
REGULATIONS**

**(Extract from Report of Inspector under Food and Drugs
Act, etc.)**

The Sections of the Food and Drugs Act administered by the Department are those which devolve on the Council as a Food and Drugs Authority and relate principally to adulteration.

‘Adulteration’ as applied to milk means the addition of water, colouring matter or preservatives or the abstraction of fat.

‘Adulteration’ as applied to other foodstuffs means the addition of any other substance to, or the abstraction of any part from a food, so as to affect injuriously its nature, substance or quality, and includes the addition of preservatives; or where a limited amount of certain preservatives is permitted, the addition of an excess amount.

For the purpose of these Sections, samples are purchased and submitted to the Public Analyst who, in his certificate, states whether, in his opinion, the articles are genuine, adulterated, injurious to health, contain an excess of preservatives or prohibited preservatives, or whether they infringe the provisions of the Act or Regulations. An attempt is made to obtain samples of milk from each retailer at least once in every year. The sampling of other foodstuffs and of drugs is spread over the whole county and over a wide range of articles, but the detection of unsatisfactory articles is a matter of chance.

It will be seen that 173 samples were not submitted to the Public Analyst. In the case of milk and spirits your Inspectors make tests of ‘informal’ samples, the ‘formal’ samples being submitted to the Public Analyst when such tests throw doubt on the quality of the article. In the case of milk samples these tests provide information which permits ‘follow-up’ or ‘Appeal to Cows’ samples being taken at the earliest possible moment, i.e. at the next successive morning or evening milking.

FOOD AND DRUG ACTS

454 samples were procured during the year, of which 281 were submitted to the Public Analyst.

The articles sampled were:

| <i>Food</i> | <i>Article</i> | <i>Number sampled</i> | <i>Number sent to Analyst</i> |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | Almonds, ground | 3 | 3 |
| | Butter | 12 | 12 |
| | Butter, lemon | 2 | 2 |
| | Bread | 1 | 1 |
| | Catsup | 2 | 2 |
| | Christmas pudding | 3 | 3 |
| | Cake | 1 | 1 |
| | Cake flour, etc. | 9 | 9 |
| | Cheese | 7 | 7 |
| | Coffee | 2 | 2 |
| | Cooking fat and lard | 5 | 5 |
| | Cooked meats, etc. | 21 | 21 |
| | Coconut Ice | 1 | 1 |
| | Coconut, desiccated | 5 | 5 |
| | Cream | 1 | 1 |
| | Cream, synthetic | 2 | 2 |
| | Custard and dessert powder | 4 | 4 |
| | Fish products | 4 | 4 |
| | Flour | 1 | 1 |
| | Frozen foods | 3 | 3 |
| | Fruit juice | 2 | 2 |
| | Fruit pectin | 1 | 1 |
| | Ginger spread | 1 | 1 |
| | Gravy browning | 2 | 2 |
| | Gelatin | 3 | 3 |
| | Herbs, dried | 1 | 1 |
| | Honey | 3 | 3 |
| | Ice cream | 5 | 5 |
| | Jelly, table and crystals | 3 | 3 |
| | Jams and marmalade | 4 | 4 |
| | Margarine | 1 | 1 |
| | Milk | 197 | 56 |
| | Milk, condensed | 7 | 7 |
| | Milk, dried... .. | 1 | 1 |
| | Milk, sterilized | 1 | 1 |
| | Milk whipping compound | 1 | 1 |
| | Mint sauce | 1 | 1 |
| | Mustard | 2 | 2 |

| <i>Food (cont.)</i> | | | | | | <i>Number</i> |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------------|----------------|
| <i>Article</i> | | | | | <i>Number</i> | <i>sent to</i> |
| | | | | | <i>sampled</i> | <i>Analyst</i> |
| Oatmeal | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Peanut Butter | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Pearl Barley, rice and tapioca | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 | 9 |
| Squash | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Popcorn | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Rennet | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Sausages | ... | ... | ... | ... | 21 | 21 |
| Semolina | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Soft drink powders | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 |
| Soup | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Spices, etc. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 | 8 |
| Spirits:—Whisky | ... | ... | ... | ... | 26 | 7 |
| Brandy | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 | 4 |
| Gin | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 | — |
| Rum | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | — |
| Stout | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Stuffing | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 |
| Suet | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 |
| Sugar | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Sweetmeat | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 | 5 |
| Tea | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Tomatoes, tinned | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 4 |
| Vinegar | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 3 |
| Vitacup | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Wine, ginger flavour | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Zubes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| <i>Drugs</i> | | | | | | |
| Aspirin | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 3 |
| Bronchial mixture | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Cascara | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Epsom Salts | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Flowers of sulphur | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Glauber Salts | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Glyc. L. and honey | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Inhalent | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Liver salts | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Saccharin | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Soda Bicarb. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Syrup of figs | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Tartaric acid | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Vegetable laxative tablets | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Milk bottles | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |

PHARMACY AND POISONS

The County Council's duties under this Act are to regulate the sale of poisons by persons other than 'authorized sellers' (chemists). For this purpose they are required to keep a list of retail sellers of Part II Poisons, i.e. 'listed sellers', and persons wishing to have their names placed on that list must make proper application and pay a small fee.

On receipt of such application one of the Council's inspectors visits the applicant, explains that the poisons permitted to be sold include only those which are set out in Part II of the Poisons List — usually disinfectants with a coal tar base, ammonia or agricultural or horticultural preparations; that the name and address of the seller must be placed on each container of poisons and that in certain cases a poisons book, in which sales are recorded, must be kept.

The Council's list included 325 premises where poisons may be sold.

Inspections were made at the premises of 218 listed sellers. There was only one infringement of a serious nature.

Thirty-two new applications were dealt with.

Seven samples were submitted to the Public Analyst in connection with sales or suspected sales of poison.

Inquiries were also made at 219 'unlisted' premises, to ascertain that poisons were not being sold; in 22 cases poisons were stocked. The sellers either removed the poisons from sale or became 'listed sellers'. A shop-keeper was cautioned in respect of the sale of a poison on which his name and address did not appear. This shop-keeper threatened to throw the Inspector out of his shop but failed to carry out his threat.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Under the above Acts, the Deputy County Medical Officer of Health performed duties during the year as 'Examining Factory Surgeon' for the following districts:

Part of Bullingdon Rural Districts, viz: the civil parishes of Brightwell Baldwin, Britwell, Cuxham with Easington, Pyrton, Shirburn and Watlington; and—

Part of Henley Rural District, viz: the civil parishes of Pishill-with-Stonor, and Swyncombe.

The Deputy County Medical Officer performed three examinations of 'young persons' for fitness for employment. All three were granted unconditional certificates.

No cases of industrial accident or poisoning occurred during the year.

ANNUAL REPORT OF COUNTY HOUSING OFFICER

I have the honour of presenting my fifth Annual Report in respect of the year 1950.

During the period under review, 207 visits were made in connection with the following:

| | |
|--|----|
| Consultations with County District Councils' Clerks, Medical Officers, Sanitary Officers, Surveyors, Consulting Engineers... | 66 |
| Consultations at Ministry of Health, London or Reading re Housing, Water Supplies, Sewerage | 8 |
| Consultations at Ministry of Food re Milk Supplies | 2 |
| Attendance at Ministry Informal or Public Inquiries | 6 |
| Visits to County Fire H.Q. re Water Supplies | 2 |
| Visits to Schools re Water Supplies | 25 |
| Miscellaneous visits | 18 |
| No. of Pasteurizing establishments | 4 |
| „ Units installed { batch type | 4 |
| „ H.T.S.T. type | 2 |
| „ visits to such establishments | 51 |
| „ pasteurized milk samples obtained | 68 |
| „ school milk samples obtained for cleanliness tests ... | 15 |
| „ „ „ „ biological examination ... | 13 |
| „ village surveys in connection with sewerage schemes ... | 12 |
| „ „ „ „ water supply schemes ... | 15 |
| „ „ „ „ rural housing ... | 1 |
| „ water samples obtained for chemical analysis | — |
| „ „ „ „ bacteriological examination ... | 45 |
| Inspection of Works in progress, water, sewerage schemes ... | 1 |

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936, SECTION 307

Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944

Sewerage schemes

| | |
|--|----|
| No. of schemes received | 4 |
| „ „ „ carried over from 1949 | 4 |
| „ „ „ in hand 1950 | 8 |
| „ „ „ approved by the County Council | 2 |
| „ „ „ not approved by the County Council | 2 |
| „ „ „ carried over to 1951 | 4 |
| Total No. of schemes approved since passing of Act of 1944 ... | 42 |
| Estimated cost £1,207,756 | |

Main Water Supply schemes

| | |
|--|----|
| No. of schemes received | 5 |
| „ „ „ carried over from 1949 | 9 |
| „ „ „ in hand 1950 | 14 |
| „ „ „ approved by the County Council | 11 |
| „ „ „ not approved by the County Council | — |
| „ „ „ carried over to 1951 | 3 |
| Total No. of schemes approved since passing of Act of 1944 ... | 25 |
| Estimated cost £1,518,659 | |

TABLE I
The following Works Approved under the Act of 1944 were in progress during the year 1950

| County District Council | Parish | S/W | Dates | | Completed | Cost | | Approx. % of work completed up to 31-12-1950 |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----|-----------|------|-----------|-----------|-------|--|
| | | | Commenced | | | Estimated | Final | |
| Bullington R.D.C. | Chinnor | W | Feb. 1949 | | | £ 7,081 | £ | 96% |
| | Sydenham | W | May 1949 | | Mar. 1950 | 792 | 791 | |
| | Christmas Common | W | June 1949 | | Apr. 1950 | 3,113 | 3,875 | |
| | Watlington and Howe Hill | W | June 1949 | | | 5,826 | | 75% |
| | Crowell | W | Jan. 1950 | | | 9,404 | | 90% |
| | Stanton St. John | W | Feb. 1950 | | May 1950 | 715 | 715 | |
| | Tetsworth | W | Feb. 1950 | | | 1,760 | | 70% |
| | Chalgrove | W | Feb. 1950 | | | 2,244 | | 92% |
| | Towersey | W | Feb. 1950 | | | 1,415 | | 40% |
| | Elsfield and Woodeaton | W | Oct. 1950 | | | 775 | | 6% |
| | Sandford-on-Thames | S | Dec. 1949 | | | 9,200 | | 60% |
| | Wheatley | S | Dec. 1950 | | | 11,706 | | 5% |
| Ploughley R.D.C. | Launton | W | — | 1947 | | 5,597 | | 90% |
| | Cottisford | W | May 1948 | | | 2,786 | | 33% |
| | Fringford | W | June 1948 | | | 6,030 | | 4% |
| | Souldern | W | June 1948 | | | 5,110 | | 55% |

Note: S—Sewerage W—Water Supply

TABLE I—(*contd.*)

| County District Council | Parish | S/W | Dates | | Completed | Cost | | Approx. % of work completed up to 31-12-1950 |
|---|--|-----|------------|--|-----------|-----------|---------|--|
| | | | Commenced | | | Estimated | Final | |
| Ploughley R.D.C. (<i>cont.</i>) | Noke, Oddington and Charlton-on-Otmoor | W | Feb. 1949 | | Jan. 1950 | £ 7,535 | £ 7,535 | |
| | Somerton | W | May 1949 | | | 5,355 | | 2% |
| | Chesterton | W | June 1949 | | | 3,800 | | 20% |
| | Ardley | W | Sept. 1949 | | | 7,200 | | 3% |
| | Fencot and Murcot | W | Dec. 1949 | | Oct. 1950 | 4,087 | 6,030 | |
| | Fritwell | W | Mar. 1950 | | | 5,874 | | 20% |
| | Hethe | W | June 1950 | | | 5,755 | | 20% |
| | Kidlington | S | Apr. 1948 | | | 150,000 | | 90% |
| Witney R.D.C. | Cassington & Eynsham | W | Oct. 1949 | | | 7,172 | | 90% |
| | Burford and Fulbrook | S | Aug. 1949 | | | 20,278 | | 75% |
| | Filkins | S | Nov. 1949 | | | 4,999 | | 75% |
| Chipping Norton R.D.C. | Kingham | W | Sept. 1950 | | | 13,100 | | 40% |
| Borough of Woodstock and part of Chipping Norton R.D.C. | Woodstock Hensington Without | S | Mar. 1948 | | | 53,000 | | 80% |
| | | | | | | | | |

Note: S—Sewerage W—Water Supply

TABLE II

RURAL HOUSING RETURN FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1st, 1950—DECEMBER 31st, 1950
Housing Act—1936

| <i>Rural Housing Survey</i> | | <i>Banbury</i> | <i>Bulling- don</i> | <i>Chipping Norton</i> | <i>Henley</i> | <i>Ploughley</i> | <i>Witney</i> | <i>Totals</i> |
|--|---|----------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Estimated No. of houses to be inspected up to £20 rateable value | | 3687 | 6442 | 3911 | 3484 | 4067 | 4747 | 26338 |
| 1950. No. of houses inspected per quarter: Jan.—March quarter... | | | | Com- pleted 1947 | 43 Com- pleted 1950 | Com- pleted 1949 | 175 | 683 |
| April—June | | 104 | 208 | — | — | — | 171 | 483 |
| July—Sept. | | 64 | 55 | — | — | — | 208 | 327 |
| Oct.—Dec. | | — | 287 | — | — | — | 172 | 459 |
| Total No. of houses inspected year 1950 ... | | 298 | 885 | — | 43 | — | 726 | 1962 |
| Total No. of houses inspected year 1949 ... | | 155 | 1031 | — | 399 | 2599 | 506 | 4690 |
| " " " 1948 ... | | 386 | 525 | — | 598 | 605 | 416 | 2530 |
| " " " 1947 ... | | 493 | 939 | 1133 | 149 | 9 | 457 | 3180 |
| " " " " since commencement of Survey | | | | | | | | |
| (Mid 1945) | | 1945 | % 4853 | % 3911 | % 3484 | % 4067 | % 3843 | % 22103 |
| remaining to be inspected ... | | 1742 | 47 1589 | 24 | — | — | 904 | 20 4235 |
| <i>Classification of houses inspected:</i> | | | | | | | | |
| GRADES | 1. Houses satisfactory in all respects ... | 222 | 11 2302 | 48 762 | 19 1307 | 38 1186 | 29 983 | 25 6762 |
| | 2. Houses with minor defects ... | 420 | 21 927 | 19 1467 | 37 1242 | 36 1315 | 32 339 | 8.8 5710 |
| | 3. Houses requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement | 971 | 50 1190 | 24 1282 | 32 878 | 25 1113 | 28 2173 | 56 7607 |
| | 4. Houses unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable cost ... | 332 | 17 434 | 9 400 | 10 57 | 1.6 453 | 11 348 | 9.1 2024 |

Note: % Are approximate

| | Banbury | Bulling- don | Chipping Norton | Henley | Ploughley | Witney | Totals |
|---|---------|-----------------|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------|--------|
| <i>Existence of Overcrowding, Housing Act 1936:</i> | | | | | | | |
| No. of cases known | 38 | 64 | 77 | 35 | 7 | 41 | 262 |
| No. of cases abated | 6 | 43 | 57 | 16 | 5 | — | 127 |
| No. of cases outstanding | 32 | 21 | 20 | 19 | 2 | 41 | 135 |
| <i>Action by Local Authorities under Housing Act in respect of:</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Sec. 9. (Repair of insanitary houses):</i> | | | | | | | |
| No. of notices served from 1.1.50 | — | 2 | 16 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 35 |
| „ „ „ complied with | — | — | 11 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 23 |
| „ „ „ outstanding (including and prior to 1.1.50) | — | 1 | 15 | 15 | 11 | — | 42 |
| <i>Sec. 11. (Demolition of insanitary houses):</i> | | | | | | | |
| No. of Demolition Orders served from 1.1.50 | — | 2 | — | 3 | 40 | — | 45 |
| „ Undertakings accepted to make fit | — | 2 | 3 | — | 15 | 8 | 28 |
| „ „ „ not to use for human habitation | — | 1 | 3 | 5 | 4 | — | 13 |
| Houses demolished | — | 1 | — | — | 6 | — | 7 |
| „ „ made fit | — | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| „ „ acquired by Local Authority | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| „ Orders outstanding (including and prior to 1.1.50) | — | 37 | 1 | 16 | 136 | — | 190 |
| „ „ revoked, Housing Act 1949 | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | 3 |
| <i>Sec. 12. (Closing Orders):</i> | | | | | | | |
| No. of closing orders made from 1.1.50 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| „ „ „ outstanding (including and prior to 1.1.50) | — | 2 | 9 | — | — | 3 | 14 |
| <i>Sec. 25. (Clearance areas):</i> | | | | | | | |
| No. of areas defined for clearance from 1.1.50 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| No. of houses involved | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| No. of houses demolished | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| No. of areas cleared | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

TABLE III

TEMPORARY HOUSING SUMMARY

| | | Year | | | | |
|--|-----|------|------|------|--------------------|-----|
| | | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | |
| Number of Army type huts converted and in use as temporary housing | ... | 342 | 456 | 608 | 440 749 | ... |
| „ „ „ not converted but inhabited | ... | 181 | 192 | 196 | 740 155 | ... |

TABLE IV

PROVISION OF NEW HOUSING UP TO DECEMBER 31st, 1950 and SUMMARY*

| By Local Authorities: Sites | Banbury | | Bulling- don | | Chipping Norton | | Henley | | Ploughley | | Witney | |
|---|---------|--|-----------------|--|--------------------|--|--------|--|-----------|--|--------|--|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Right of entry obtained, development or house erection not yet begun | — | | 59 | | 41 | | 2 | | 12 | | 287 | |
| Devolved or under development, house erection not yet begun | — | | 92 | | — | | 14 | | 20 | | 10 | |
| <i>New dwellings</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| On tenders approved | 196 | | 514 | | 291 | | 272 | | 544 | | 467 | |
| Under construction | 40 | | 138 | | 57 | | 66 | | 122 | | 87 | |
| Total No. houses completed | 140 | | 344 | | 212 | | 202 | | 400 | | 351 | |
| Completed 1950 | 26 | | 70 | | 57 | | 42 | | 78 | | 70 | |
| „ 1949 | 18 | | 107 | | 77 | | 57 | | 112 | | 118 | |
| „ 1948 | 46 | | 137 | | 70 | | 71 | | 150 | | 108 | |
| „ 1947 | 28 | | 28 | | 8 | | 28 | | 52 | | 49 | |
| „ 1946 | 22 | | 2 | | — | | 4 | | 8 | | 6 | |
| <i>By Private Enterprise:</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total number of Licences & Approvals issued | 57 | | 143 | | 82 | | 146 | | 80 | | 92 | |
| Under construction | 9 | | 8 | | 3 | | 7 | | 12 | | 16 | |
| Total No. houses completed | 48 | | 116 | | 67 | | 135 | | 65 | | 68 | |
| Completed 1950 | 7 | | 19 | | 16 | | 9 | | 18 | | 13 | |
| „ 1949 | 10 | | 14 | | 19 | | 30 | | 12 | | 23 | |
| „ 1948 | 7 | | 26 | | 9 | | 41 | | 12 | | 14 | |
| „ 1947 | 14 | | 27 | | 16 | | 28 | | 10 | | 16 | |
| „ 1946 | 10 | | 30 | | 7 | | 27 | | 13 | | 2 | |
| Estimated population in 1000's | 15 | | 30 | | 15 | | 20 | | 17 | | 20 | |

* Information supplied by Ministry of Local Government and Planning

TABLE V
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TOWARDS HOUSING—SUMMARY

| | <i>Banbury</i> | <i>Bulling- don</i> | <i>Chipping Norton</i> | <i>Henley</i> | <i>Ploughley</i> | <i>Witney</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|---|----------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Number of dwellings towards which advances for purchase have been made under: | | | | | | | |
| (a) Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts 1899-1923 | — | 5 | — | 4 | 4 | — | 13 |
| (b) Housing Act 1949 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| (c) Improvement Grants, Housing Act 1949 | | | | | | | |
| No. applications received | — | 5 | — | 25 | 2 | 2 | 34 |
| „ „ approved | — | 1 | — | 19 | 2 | 1 | 23 |
| „ „ rejected or withdrawn | — | 4 | — | 2 | — | 1 | 7 |
| „ „ under consideration | — | — | — | 4 | — | — | 4 |
| „ „ forwarded to Ministry | — | 1 | — | 19 | 2 | 1 | 23 |
| „ „ approved by Ministry | — | — | — | 9 | — | — | 9 |
| „ „ rejected by Ministry | — | — | — | 4 | — | — | 4 |
| „ „ under consideration by Ministry | — | 1 | — | 6 | 2 | 1 | 10 |

Of the £2,726,415 estimated for new works of piped water supply and main drainage, table I shows work in hand on such schemes as permitted by the appropriate Ministry.

Contributions promised by the County Council to the Rural District Councils towards new schemes amount by way of capital sums to £151,750, and £1986 in annual contributions up to 30 year periods.

Of these sums, £85,000 has been paid in capital grants and £294 by way of annual contributions.

In addition to payments made under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act 1944, the County Council has contributed under the Public Health Act, £14,496 towards new water and sewerage schemes completed prior to 1944.

Milk

Regular visits were made during the year to the four pasteurizing establishments centred at Banbury. Premises, methods and plant were in each dairy satisfactorily maintained. Of the 66 pasteurized milk samples obtained, only one failed the phosphatase test (a test to indicate satisfactory heat treatment of the milk). None failed the methylene blue test for keeping quality. The failure mentioned was attributed to mismanagement of a pasteurizing unit. One new application for a licence to pasteurize milk was received from a retail dairyman in Watlington, delivery of the equipment is now awaited.

Owing to a shortage in guinea-pigs it was not possible for all undesignated school milk supplies to be biologically examined. The thirteen samples submitted proved satisfactory.

Housing

The statement on Rural Housing (table II) shows that after five and a half years the housing survey is still proceeding in half of the rural districts. In connection with the findings of the survey completed by Henley Rural, it is interesting to note, in comparison with the other rural districts, the very low number of unfit houses and the correspondingly higher proportion of fit ones. This favourable position, it is suggested, arises from that Council's earlier policy of seeking demolition or repair of its insanitary cottages, whilst the pleasant nature and favourable position of the area for residential purposes has materially assisted in the absorption of old premises for reconditioning.

Table III may be used as an index on housing conditions, it being noted that the number of converted ex-service hutments has more than doubled over the past three years. It was hoped that this form of makeshift housing would be but of a very temporary measure, and that by now many of the tenants would have found themselves more suitably housed.

Table IV appertains to building progress, the figures relate from April 1945. The drop in new housing from 1948-49 arose from national restrictions imposed around that period, the effect of which is still being felt. At this stage it might be mentioned that in the six rural areas some 5000 applicants await Council houses.

Table V indicates the extent of the District Councils' implementation of the Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts and/or Housing Act 1949.

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